

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CANBER 05608 110745Z

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ACTION EA-14

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R 110631Z OCT 73
FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1811

UNCLAS CANBERRA 5608

FOR EA/ANP

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: AS, US, AFSI
SUBJ: REQUEST FOR LANGUAGE TRAINING

1. DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS PERSONNEL OFFICE HAS REQUESTED INFORMATION FROM EMBASSY WITH REGARD TO AVAILABILITY OF TRAINING IN HARD LANGUAGES FOR AUSTRALIAN FOREIGN SERVICE OFFICERS. REQUEST IS BEING MADE ON BEHALF OF NEW FOREIGN SERVICE OFFICER ASSIGNED TO RANGOON AND SCHEDULED TO BE AT POST IN EARLY PART OF 1974. ASSUMPTION IS THAT AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT WOULD PAY COST OF TRANSPORTATION AND ANY SCHOOL FEES FOR THIS STUDENT IF HE CAN MAKE APPROPRIATE ARRANGEMENTS TO BE ADMITTED TO A LANGUAGE SCHOOL IN U.S. LANGUAGE REQUIRED IS OF COURSE BURMESE.

2. EMBASSY INFERS FROM BROCHURE ON FOREIGN SERVICE INSTITUTE THAT NON-USG EMPLOYEES ARE NOT ELIGIBLE TO ATTEND FSI. INFORMATION WE HAVE ON DEFENSE LANGUAGE INSTITUTE AT ANACOSTIA AND SISTER SCHOOL AT MONTEREY DOES NOT CONTAIN SUCH PROHIBITION AGAINST NON-USG EMPLOYEES. WE WOULD VERY MUCH APPRECIATE DEPARTMENT LOOKING INTO POSSIBILITIES FOR AUSTRALIAN FSO ATTEND EITHER ANACOSTIA OR MONTEREY TO STUDY BURMESE FOR APPROXIMATE THREE-MONTH PERIOD. WE GATHER FROM MONTEREY BROCHURE THAT THIS SCHOOL HAS FACILITIES TO CATER TO INDIVIDUAL PROGRAMS AS WELL AS ATTENDANCE AT REGULARLY SCHEDULED COURSES.

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EM WE WOULD APPRECIATE RESPONSE ASAP SINCE WE UNDERSTAND

AGREEMENT IN PRINCIPLE TO OVERSEAS TRAINING HAS BEEN MADE
IN FAVOR OF AUSTRALIAN FSO CONCERNED.

4. COMMENT: REQUEST FOR INFORMATION IN THIS CASE REFLECTS
CONTINUING DFA DESIRE TO ACCOMMODATE WISHES OF INCOMING
FOREIGN SERVICE OFFICERS WITH REGARD TO LANGUAGE TRAINING.
EVEN THOUGH THREE MONTHS' TRAINING DOES NOT SEEM TO BE
SUFFICIENT IN BURMESE, WE EXPECT DFA PERSONNEL OFFICE
WOULD ACCEPT THIS TRAINING IF IT IS OFFERED FOR THIS
INDIVIDUAL. EMBASSY'S INFORMATION ON OTHER TRAINING
ACTIVITIES BESIDES FSI AND DEFENSE LANGUAGE INSTITUTE IS
LIMITED. WE WOULD THEREFORE APPRECIATE ANY ADDITIONAL
INFORMATION ABOUT LANGUAGE TRAINING FOR WHICH AUSTRALIAN
FSOS COULD QUALIFY.
GREEN

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